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TWO BROTHERS INDICTED FOR PASSPORT FRAUD

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono reports that this afternoon Adil and Fadil Muratoski were each arraigned on charges of passport fraud. The men are brothers and they reside in Mount Prospect, Illinois. They were each indicted for one count of passport fraud by a federal grand jury on February 5, 2004. They were arrested by federal authorities in the Chigaco area on February 27, 2004.

Both men are believed to have been born in Macedonia and neither are United States citizens. They are charged with listing false places of birth on passport applications they filed with the National Passport Center in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Adil Muratoski is charged with falsely claiming that he was born in Illinois and Fadil Muratowski is charged with falsely claiming that he was born in Ohio.

If convicted of these offenses Adil and Fadil Muratoski each face a maximum prison term of ten years and a maximum fine of \$250,000.

At today's arraignments both men were released on personal recognizance. Trial dates were scheduled for May 4, 2004, for Adil Muratoski and May 18, 2004, for Fadil Muratoski

These cases were investigated by the Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the U.S. State Department. They are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark S. Zuckerman.

An indictment is only an allegation and not proof of criminal conduct. As in all criminal cases, the defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.